

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) West Line, 44th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 44 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 47)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)

STREET &amp; NUMBER off west side of Mason-Dixon Drive, between Harris Mill Road (MD) and T-542 (PA)

CITY, TOWN

Gorsuch Mills

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 2 / PA: 19

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Baltimore / PA: York

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☐ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☒ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC  
☐ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS N/A

☐ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY

☒ OTHER: state boundary marker**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument only)NAME State of Maryland/ Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
(see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** N/A  
(see surrounding property ownership list)COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Baltimore County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

BA-1563 entered 3/8/79

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Baltimore County Office of Planning, County Courts Building

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE  
Maryland

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Milestone No. 44(47) marks Mason and Dixon's 44th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their West Line. It is one of 10 original milestones still standing along the present Baltimore/York county boundary, and is one of the 111 original milestones still standing along the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765, and monumented in 1766, where it remains to this day, although reset in 1902 more securely by the 1900-03 Resurvey party.

The area here is rolling and still predominantly farmland interspersed with woods, but with increasing suburban residential development taking place along the north (Pennsylvania) side of the boundary. The site is <sup>comparatively protected</sup> located about 1.9 miles northwest of the small crossroads settlement of Gorsuch Mills, MD; about 2 1/4 miles southwest of the town of Stewartstown, PA; about 900' west of the road, in a scraggly east-west barbed wire fencerow between two cultivated but unfenced fields. It cannot be seen from the road, nor easily from nearby, in any season.

The monument, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, was an embellished squared oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top and rough-cut base, quarried and carved in England. Originally set to stand about 3' above ground, No. 44(47) was reset at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary to stand about 1 1/2' above ground and secured below ground by a concrete collar. It presently stands about 1' above ground, is in place, still firmly set, and in excellent condition. The north side, facing Pennsylvania, measures about 11 1/4" wide by about 12 1/2" <sup>high</sup> above ground; the letter P and all embellishments are quite clear and essentially intact. The east side measures about 11 1/4" wide by about 12 1/4" high above ground; most fluting and margins remain. The south side, facing Maryland, measures about 11 1/4" wide by about 10 1/2" high above ground; the letter M and all embellishments are quite clear and essentially intact; The west side measures about 11 1/4" wide by about 10" high above ground; most fluting and margins remain. The top planes and apex are quite clear, with a low rise of about 1"; all top corners and edges are nicked with small chips and the surface somewhat weatherworn.

(For additional descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting these, see the Thematic Group NR nomination form.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1766 (reset 1902)

~~MONUMENT ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon  
SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (For a statement of significance of the Baltimore/York county marker series, see capsule summary sheet. For a statement of significance of the entire West Line survey and markers, see the Thematic Group NR nomination form.)

Milestone No. 44(47) is significant primarily as one of the 111 original Mason and Dixon milestones still standing along the West Line, commonly known since Civil War times as the Mason-Dixon Line, notable for its historical impact and innovative boundary survey methods. The site was surveyed and preliminarily marked in 1765, and monumented the following year, where it remains to this day, although reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Individually, and as one of 10 original milestones marking the present Baltimore/York county boundary, No. 44(47) is also of significance locally as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with an identifiable relationship to our colonial heritage.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group NR nomination form, Item 8)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(see National Register thematic group nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreVERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

UTM:18.36126.439783

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE MarylandCOUNTY BaltimoreSTATE PennsylvaniaCOUNTY York**11 FORM PREPARED BY**NAME / TITLE Alice Martin (volunteer historic sites surveyor)ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological SurveyDATE 12/9/79 (site surveyed)STREET & NUMBER 14308 Mount AvenueTELEPHONE 301/472-2128CITY OR TOWN PhoenixSTATE Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

BA - 1563

MASON DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 44 (47)

NORRISVILLE QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND - PENNSYLVANIA  
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
1957 PHOTO REV. 1974 SCALE: 1" = 2000'

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



76°37'30" 361000m E.

2 320 000 FEET (PA.)

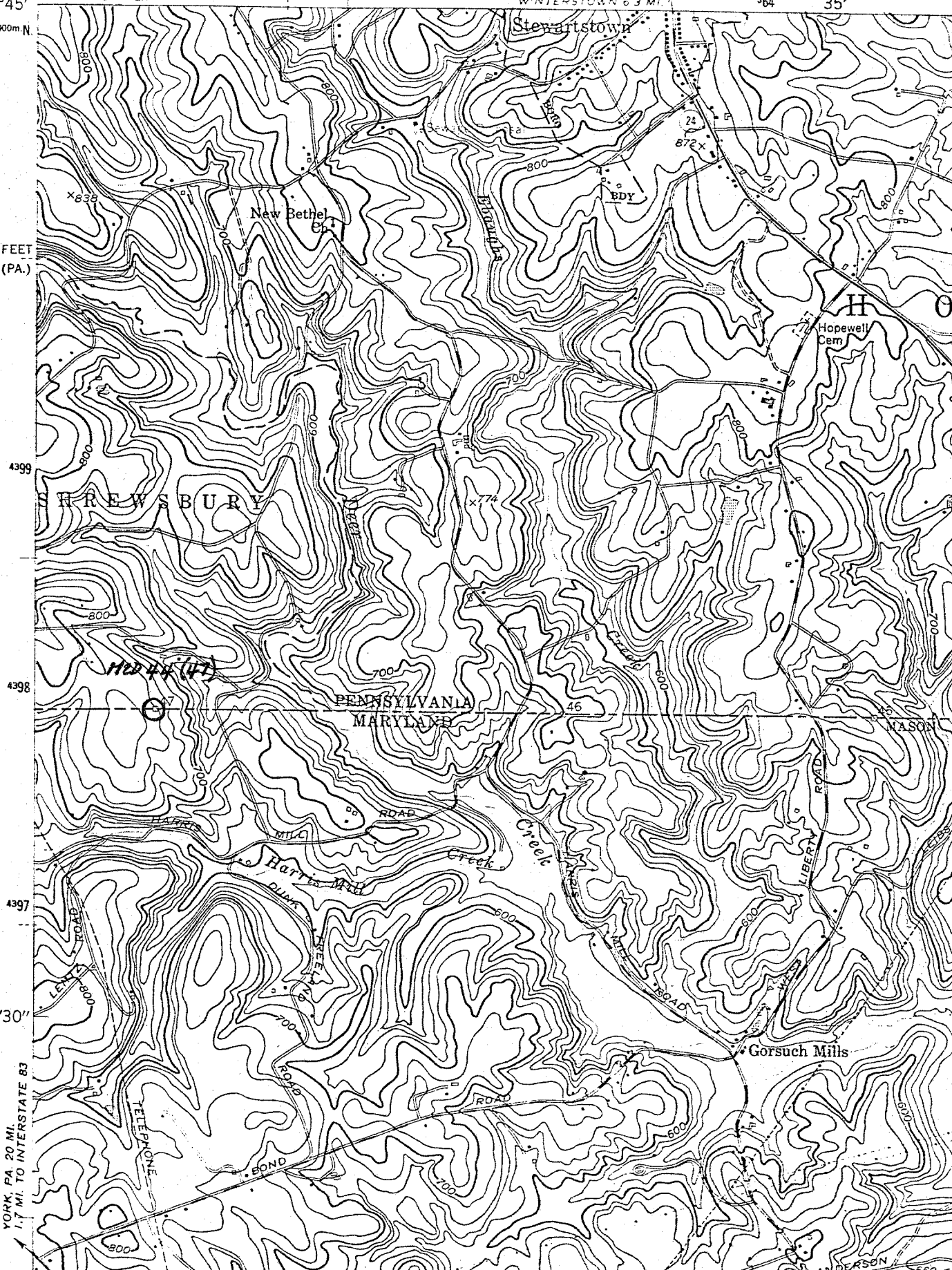
YORK 20 MI  
WINTERSTOWN 6.3 MI.

364 35'

5663 / SW  
(GLEN ROCK)

4401000m N

150 000 FEET  
(PA.)



M.D. 44 (47)

PENNSYLVANIA  
MARYLAND

MASON

42'30"

YORK, PA. 20 MI  
1.7 MI. TO INTERSTATE 83

ANDERSON 560



MHT

BA-1563

MASON-DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 44(47)  
NW CORNER (P/-)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1979.12.15A) 12/9/79

1979.12





MHT

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE, MILESTONE 44 (47)  
SW CORNER (—/M)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 12/9/79 (1979.12.11A)